

# Caltrans Corridor Planning Guidebook

## **Chris Schmidt, AICP, Chief**

Division of Transportation Planning  
California Department of Transportation

## **Scott Sauer, Chief**

Office of Multimodal System Planning  
Division of Transportation Planning

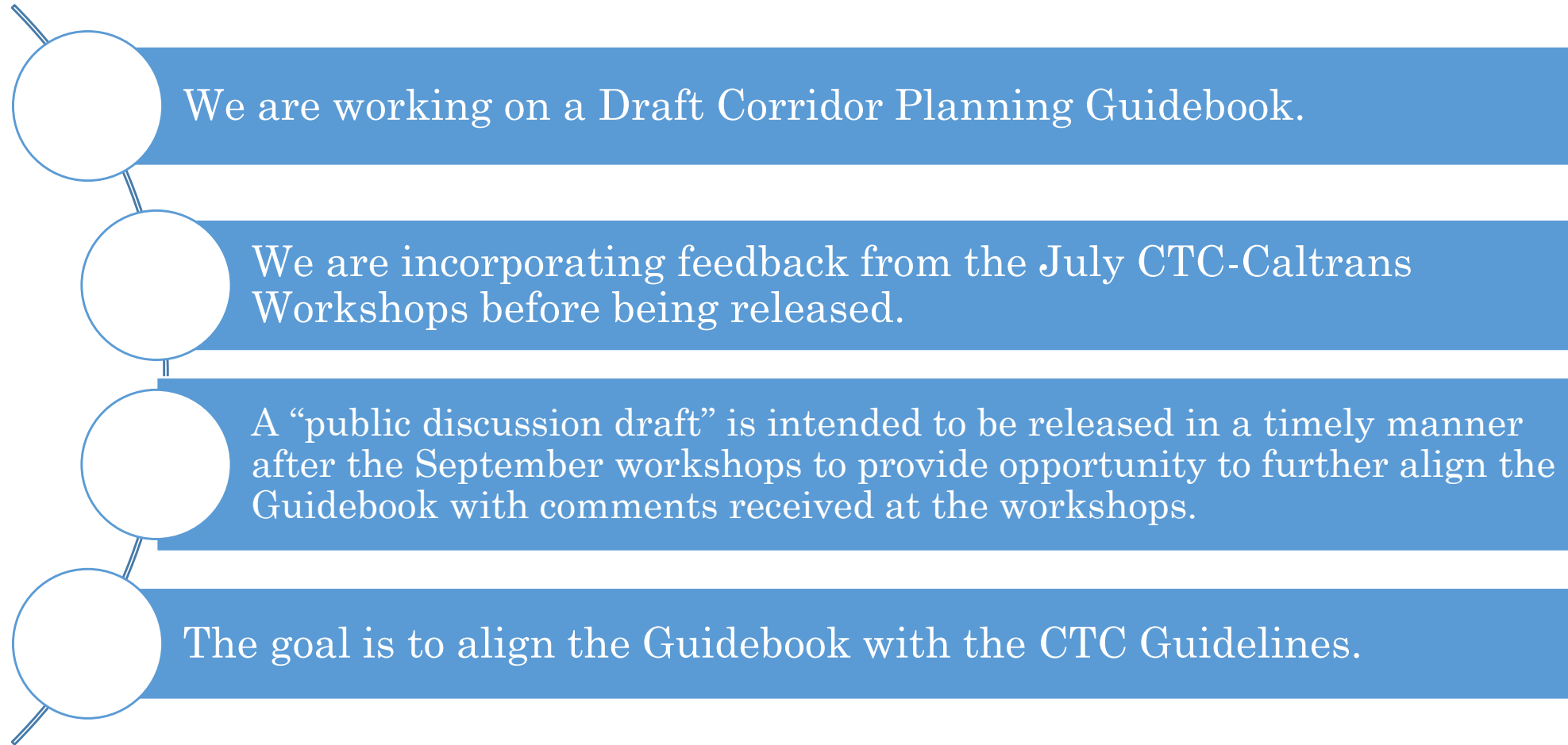
Rusty Thornton

Senior Transportation Planner  
Investment Planning Lead

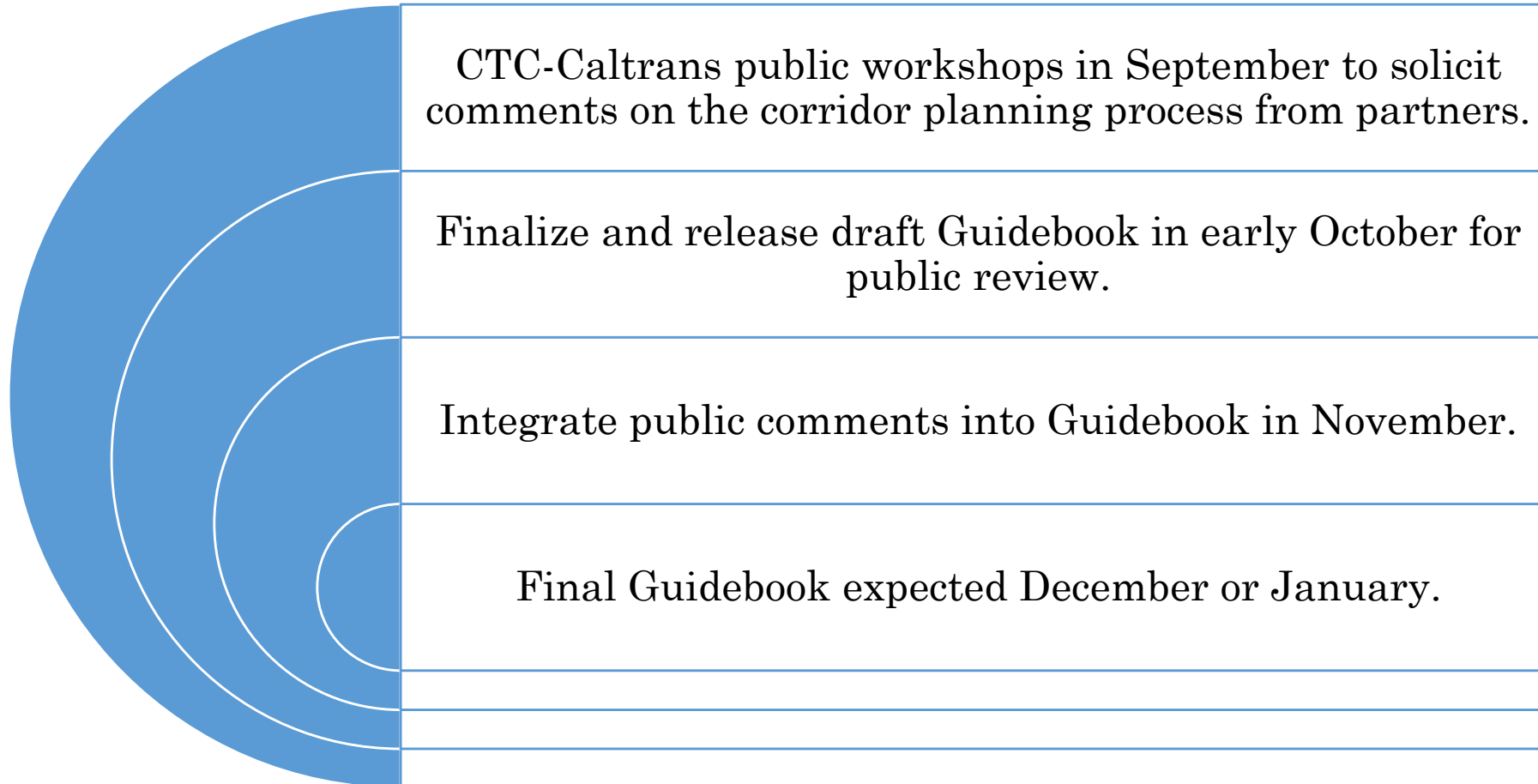
Erik Alm, AICP

Senior Transportation Planner  
Planning for Operations Statewide Lead

# Corridor Planning Guidebook Status



# Corridor Planning Guidebook Schedule




# Discussion Topics

The following are discussion topics to solicit input on key corridor planning elements:


1. What is a corridor? How do we define it?
2. Do we have the correct Emphasis Areas (discussed later in this presentation)?
3. Provide input on the mechanisms of partnering – how should we best coordinate efforts?

# Policy - Process - Product

Policies come from existing plans and other sources like legislation for example, that give direction, strategies, goals, and targets.



Process is the how-to guide to complete products. The corridor planning guidebook is the how-to for corridor planning.



Product is the outcome of the process, a comprehensive corridor plan that represents a sustainable framework of needs.

# Guidebook Elements

The following are the major sections of the Guidebook.



State, Regional, and Local **Corridor Planning Policy Framework**



Eight-Step **Corridor Planning Process**



Key **Corridor Planning Emphasis Areas**



# Corridor Planning Policy Approach

Collaboration and  
Communication

Identify and  
Prioritize Corridors

Multi-disciplinary  
and Multi-  
organizational  
Corridor Team

State, Tribal,  
Regional, and Local  
Plans - Asset  
Management  
(SHOPP)

Leverage Funding

# What is a Corridor?

**The following is an example of a definition from a USDOT sponsored paper:**

- “A largely linear geographic band defined by existing and forecasted travel patterns involving both people and goods. The corridor serves a particular travel market or markets that are affected by similar transportation needs and mobility issues. The corridor includes various networks (e.g., limited access facility, surface arterial(s), transit, bicycle, pedestrian pathway, waterway) that provide similar or complementary transportation functions. Additionally, the corridor includes cross-network connections that permit the individual networks to be readily accessible from each other. The term “network” is used to denote a specific combination of facility and mode.”



# Corridor Planning Emphasis Areas

Throughout the Corridor Planning process there must be equal and equitable consideration of issues that address transportation system performance and quality of life.

## 21 Emphasis Areas

- **Accessibility, Active Transportation, Asset Management, Broadband, Climate Change, Connected & Automated Vehicles, Emerging Technologies, Environmental, Freight & Goods Movement, Health, Housing Land Use & Place Types, Livability, Multimodal Integration, Safety & Worker Safety, Smart Highways/Infrastructure, Smart Mobility, Sustainability, System Operations and Performance, Transit and Passenger Rail, Transportation System Management and Operations, Zero Emission Vehicles, etc.**

# Emphasis Area Examples

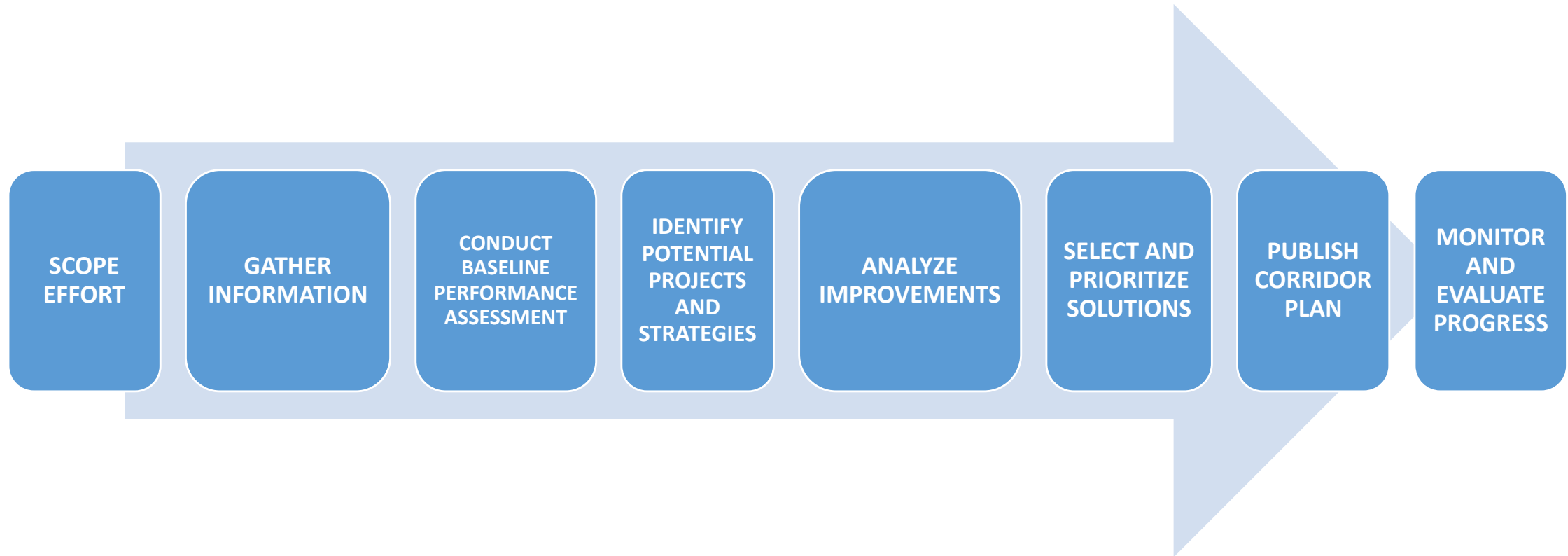


Freight/Goods  
Movement

Active  
Transportation

Accessibility

# Corridor Planning Process



# Key Corridor Plan Elements

- ✓ Demonstrate Caltrans and Regional/Local partnership
- ✓ Short, medium and long-term planning horizon (up to 25 years)
- ✓ Identifies specific corridor objectives
- ✓ Considers multimodal approaches to address system deficiencies
- ✓ Evaluates performance impacts of recommended projects and strategies
- ✓ Considers a range of performance metrics
- ✓ Recommends and prioritizes improvements that feed into Caltrans System Planning processes, transportation funding programs and the regional transportation planning process
- ✓ Consistent with the principles of the federal Congestion Management Process
- ✓ Informed by the principles of the California Transportation Plan (CTP) and Caltrans' Smart Mobility Framework

# Travel Analysis Tool Selection

- Range of Analysis Tool Options: Sketch Planning to Micro-simulation
- Travel Demand Models, Macro- and Meso-level tools, specialized tools

ANALYSIS CHARACTERISTICS	
<b>Study Type</b>	<b>Analysis Horizon</b>
Planning	Short Term (1-4 years)
Design	Medium Term (5-10 years)
Transportation Management Plan	Long Term (Up to 25 years)
Operations	
Evaluation	<b>Analysis Timeframe</b>
	Daily
	Peak Period
	Peak Hour
	< One Hour

RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS		
<b>Time</b>	<b>People</b>	
<i>Time Available for Study</i>	<i>Knowledge Skills</i>	<i>Ability Availability</i>
<b>Data</b>	<b>Tools</b>	
<i>Accuracy/ Quality</i>	<i>Availability</i>	<i>Ease of Use</i>
<i>Availability</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>Precision/ Accuracy</i>
<i>Dynamics</i>	<i>Visualization Capabilities</i>	<i>Requirements</i>
<i>Resources Available for Additional Data</i>	<i>Processing/ Run-Time</i>	<i>User Support Well - Trusted</i>

## ANALYSIS CHARACTERISTICS

### Geographic Area

Urban/ Suburban  
Rural

### Geographic Size

Isolated Location  
Segment  
Corridor  
Small Region  
Large Region

### Travel Mode

Single Occupancy Vehicle  
High Occupancy Vehicle (2, 3, 3+)  
Truck  
Shared Ride  
Low/No Emissions Vehicle  
Connected/ Autonomous Vehicle  
Motorcycle  
Bus  
Rail  
Bicycle  
Pedestrian

### Improvement Strategy

Roadway Infrastructure  
Roadway Management  
Integrated Corridor Management  
Active Traffic Management  
Connected Vehicles  
Autonomous Vehicles  
Truck Bypass  
Incident Management  
Weather Management  
Work Zone  
Traveler Information  
Electronic Payment/Tolling  
Transit Services  
Transit Infrastructure  
Active Transportation  
Complete Streets  
Shared Mobility

### Traveler Response

Pre-Trip Route Diversion  
En-Route Diversion  
Mode Shift  
Departure Time Choice  
Destination Change  
Induced Demand  
Foregone Demand

### Facility Type

Freeway  
High-Occupancy Vehicle Lane  
Interchange  
Express Lane  
Managed Lane  
Highway  
Arterial  
Roundabout  
Isolated Intersection  
Freeway Connector  
Ramp  
Auxiliary Lane  
Reversible Lane  
Truck Lane  
Toll Plaza  
Rail  
Bus Lane  
Bicycle  
Pedestrian

### Response Timeframe

Real-Time Response  
Longer-Term Response

### Performance Measure

Delay  
Bottleneck/Queue Location & Extent  
Travel Time  
Travel Time Reliability  
Throughput/Volume  
Speed  
Level of Service (LOS)  
Transit Ridership  
Service Frequency  
Injury and Fatality Crashes  
Bicycle and Pedestrian Collisions  
Crash Rates  
Reduced Safety Conflicts  
Access or System Connectivity  
Truck Hours of Delay  
Truck Travel Time Reliability  
Job Access  
Disadvantaged Population Served  
GHG  
Air Pollutants  
Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)  
Fuel Consumption  
Noise  
Mode Share  
Jobs/Housing Ratio  
Benefit/Cost

# Caltrans Corridor Planning Guidebook: Comments and Questions



Send Comments by September 21 To:  
**[CaltransCorridorPlanning@dot.ca.gov](mailto:CaltransCorridorPlanning@dot.ca.gov)**

Scott Sauer, Chief  
Office of Multimodal System Planning  
Division of Transportation Planning  
[scott.sauer@dot.ca.gov](mailto:scott.sauer@dot.ca.gov)